

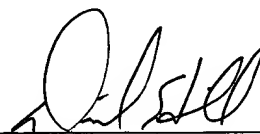
1 REMARKS

2 Prior to substantive examination please enter this
3 preliminary amendment into the record. Applicant has cancelled
4 Claim 1 and added Claims 2-21 which more clearly define the
5 invention. Applicant has not cancelled Claim 1 for any "reasons
6 relating to patentability" as discussed by the Federal Circuit in
7 Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 234 F.3d
8 558; 2000 U.S. App. LEXIS 29979; 56 U.S.P.Q.2D (BNA) 1865
9 (Fed.Cir. Nov. 29, 2000), cert. granted, June 18, 2001, Reported
10 at: 2001 U.S. LEXIS 4495. Applicant reserves the right to
11 prosecute all cancelled claims in one or more continuation
12 applications.

13 In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits
14 that the present invention represents a patentable contribution
15 to the art and the application is in condition for allowance.
16 Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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David M. Hill
Reg. No. 46,170
WARD & OLIVO
708 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-6262